

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 22800 200226Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /057 W  
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R 191821Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5023  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMCONSUL BORDEAUX  
AMCONSUL LYON  
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE  
AMCONSUL NICE  
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, US, FR  
SUBJECT: MINIMAL FRENCH REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S  
COMMENTS ON EUROCOMMUNISM

REF: ROME 13246

1. FRENCH REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS HAS  
BEEN VIRTUALLY NON-EXISTENT. COMMUNIST DAILY HUMANITE  
JULY 17, IN FINAL PARAGRAPH OF PAGE 4 ARTICLE, REPORTED  
THE PRESIDENT'S REMARK THAT "CRITICISMS EXPRESSED BY  
THE PCF REGARDING THE MOSCOW TRIALS PROVE THAT THE PARTY  
IS NOT CONTROLLED BY THE USSR", AND THEN ADDED THE FUR-  
THER QUOTATION: "WE (THE US) PREFER THAT COMMUNISM IN  
WESTERN EUROPE HAVE LITTLE IMPORTANCE AND NOT GROW."  
HUMANITE MADE NO EDITORIAL COMMENT.

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2. ONLY OTHER PRESS MENTION HAS BEEN IN THE FINAL PARA-  
GRAPH OF A JULY 17 LE MONDE BACK-PAGE REPORT ON THE  
PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO WEST BERLIN: "CONCERNING EURO-  
COMMUNISM, AGAINST WHICH THE US DOES NOT ENVISAGE IN-  
TERVENING, HE (THE PRESIDENT) HAD SEVERAL GOOD WORDS TO  
ADDRESS TO THE PCF WHICH HE FOUND TO BE AT THE HEAD OF

PROTESTS AGAINST THE SOVIET TRIALS."

3. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NO INQUIRIES WHATSOEVER ON THE STATEMENT.

4. COMMENT: THE LONG BASTILLE DAY WEEKEND (JULY 14-16) PLUS THE VACATION SEASON IN GENERAL UNDOUBTEDLY LESSENED THE POTENTIAL FOR COMMENT ON OR EXPLOITATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS. MOREOVER, CURRENT PCF STRATEGY IS TO TREAT ISSUES SUCH AS "INDEPENDENCE FROM MOSCOW" AND "SUPPORT OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES" AS GIVEN AND THUS AS UNWORTHY OF CONTINUING ATTENTION (AND CERTAINLY IN NO NEED OF THE US BLESSING). HUMANITE'S PASSING REFERENCE TO THE PRESIDENT'S ANTI-EUROCOMMUNIST STATEMENT IS EXPLAINED BY THE COMMUNISTS' CURRENT EFFORT TO CONVINCE PARTY MEMBERSHIP THAT EVERYONE -- GISCARD, MITTERRAND, CARTER -- IS OUT TO DESTROY THE PCF: WHEN YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS AT HOME, RALLY THE FOLKS AGAINST AN EXTERNAL THREAT. FOR OTHER FRENCH PARTIES, THE TENSIONS OF THE PRE-ELECTORAL PERIOD HAVE DISAPPEARED -- ALTHOUGH THE POTENTIAL FOR REACTING AGAINST "US INTERFERENCE IN FRENCH POLITICS" IS ALWAYS PRESENT, THE ABSENCE OF ANY IMPENDING ELECTORAL CONTEST HAS DAMPENED FRENCH CONCERNS OVER THE RISK OF PCF PARTICIPATION IN THE GOF AND CONSEQUENTLY OVER THE WHOLE QUESTION OF EUROCOMMUNISM.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, PRESIDENT, COMMUNISM, SPEECHES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PARIS22800  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Subject:** MINIMAL FRENCH REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS ON EUROCOMMUNISM  
**TAGS:** PINT, SOPN, US, FR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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